

REMARKS

Claims 2-7, 10, 12, 19 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 8, 9, 11 and 18 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13 - 18 and 21 are now pending in the present application. In view of the above amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 6 and 7; and claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 1 and 10. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 1, 12; and claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 19. Each of these independent claims now includes subject matter deemed allowable and is in condition for allowance. Because claims 8, 13, 14 and 21 depends from and, therefore, includes the limitations of one of these independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that these independent claims are also allowable.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the now pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 20, 2005

By:

Oleg F. Kaplun (Reg. No. 45,559)  
Fay Kaplun & Marcin, LLP  
150 Broadway, Suite 702  
New York, New York 10038  
Tel: (212) 619-6000  
Fax: (212) 619-0276